

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 28, 2005, in which claims 1-22 were rejected and the drawings were objected to. With this Amendment, claims 1, 7, 9, 16-19 are amended, and claims 6 and 15 are canceled. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-22 are requested.

The Office Action indicates that the drawings do not show every feature specified in the claims. Specifically, it states that intersecting first and second major axes as claimed in claim 18 are not shown.

Applicant believes that the Examiner has misunderstood what is being claimed in claim 18. The rejection regarding claim 18 in the Office Action indicates that two major axes intersecting at an angle are shown in Fig. 13 of Benson et al. Fig. 13 shows two major axes intersecting on a single film.

Claim 18 is directed to an article having two films. The first film has a first major axis, and the second film has a second major axis. The films are positioned adjacent one another such that the first and second axes intersect. Fig. 5 of the present application shows film 10 positioned adjacent film 39 such that the major axes of films 10 and 39 intersect. Because the feature claimed in claim 18 is shown, the objection to the drawings should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-6, 9, 11-21 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Benson et al. Independent claims 1, 9 and 16-19 are amended to clarify that the first prism elements have "generally parallel blunt tips extending substantially uninterrupted across the structured surface of the film", and the "width of the blunt tips is greater than 0% to less than about 40% a width of the bases" of the first prism elements.

Benson et al. does not teach or suggest generally parallel blunt tips extending substantially uninterrupted across the structured surface of a film. Fig. 6, for example, which is a cross section of the article shown in Fig. 5, shows raised sections extending along the structured surface. However, these raised sections intersect one another instead of running parallel.

Additionally, Benson et al. does not teach or suggest blunt tips having widths that are greater than 0% to less than about 40% a width of the bases of the first prism elements. The Office Action

contends that Fig. 13 of Benson et al. shows first prism elements with blunt tips having a width that is greater than 0% to less than about 40% the width of the base of the prism elements. In fact, the tips shown in Fig. 13 (and shown in cross-section in Fig. 14) have widths that are much greater than 40% of the width of the bases. The specification discusses the advantages of minimizing the taper angle of side walls 104 shown in Fig. 14. Specifically, Benson et al states that “[r]duced taper provides a wider raised section top surface 126,” and “[t]his reduced taper also enhances brightness of the article without reducing whiteness.” (Col. 11, lines 22-33). Thus, Benson et al. not only does not positively teach, but also teaches away from utilizing prism elements with blunt tips of relatively narrow width, and the claims as amended are not anticipated. In addition, claims that depend from claims 1, 9, 16-19 are not anticipated and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 7, 8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Benson et al. Because claims 1 and 9 are not anticipated by Benson et al. as discussed above, claims 7, 8 and 10 are not obvious. The rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 6 and 15 are canceled, because these limitations are now incorporated into claims 1 and 9, respectively.

CONCLUSION

The Amendment has placed this application in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0982.

Respectfully submitted,

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